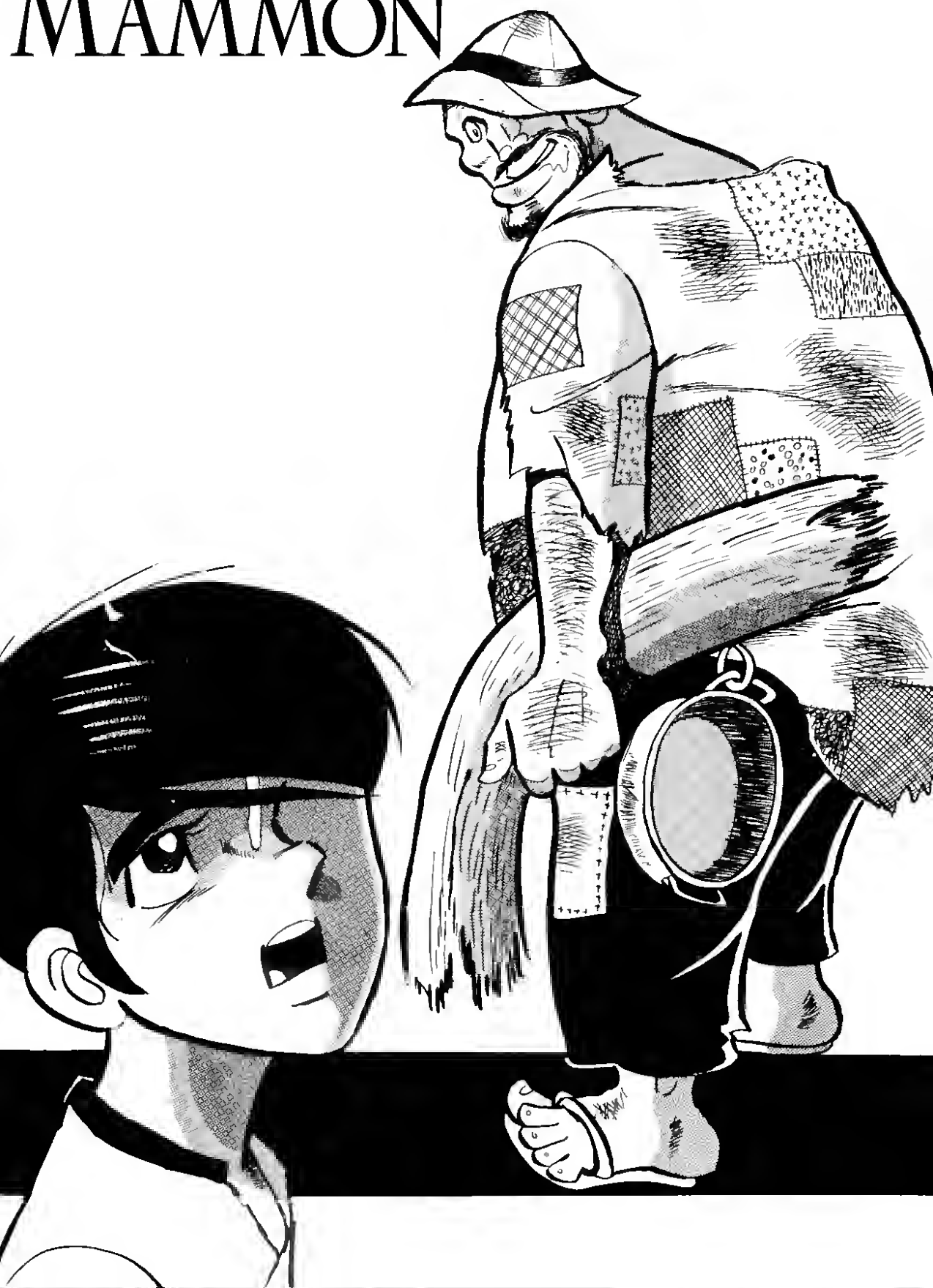
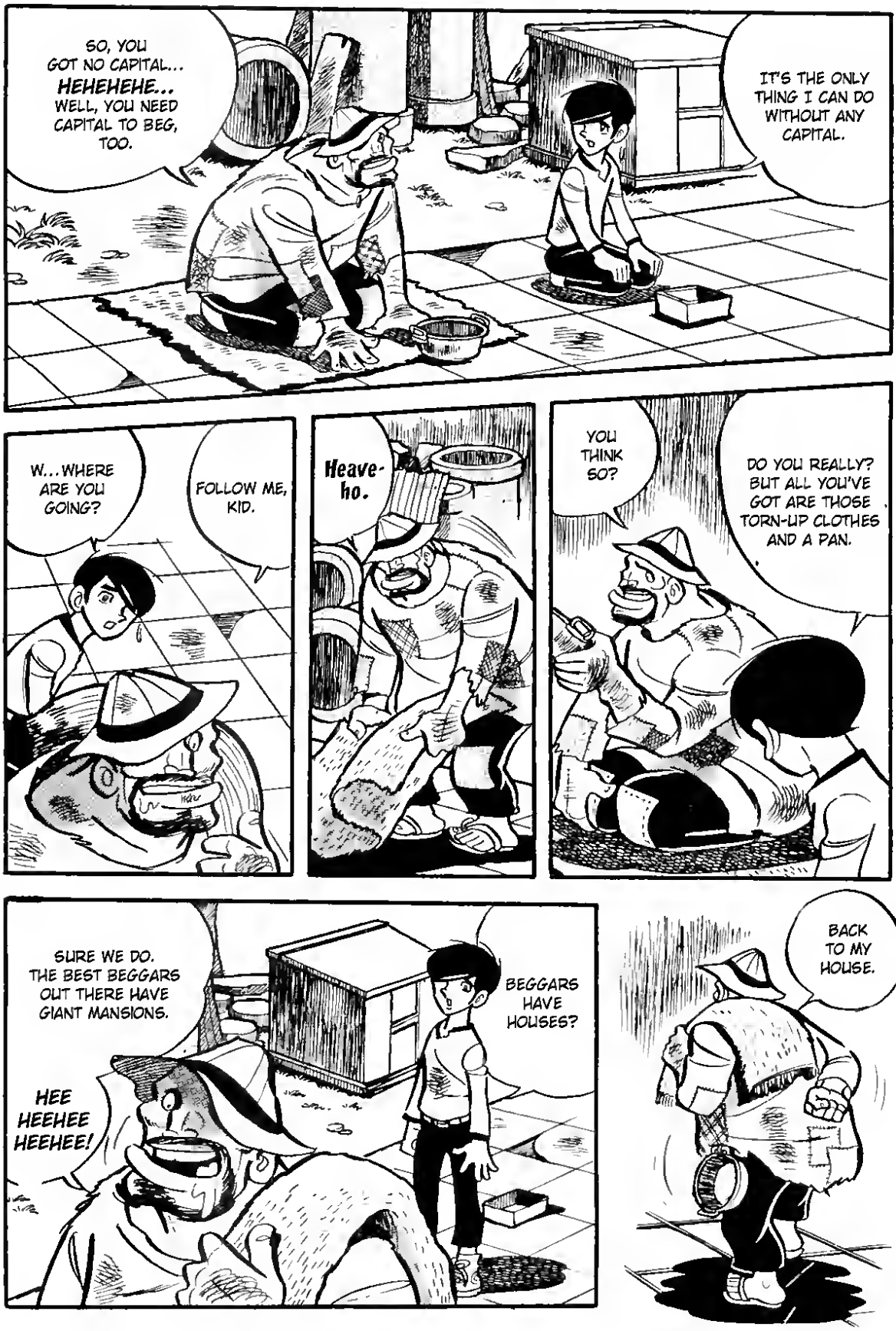
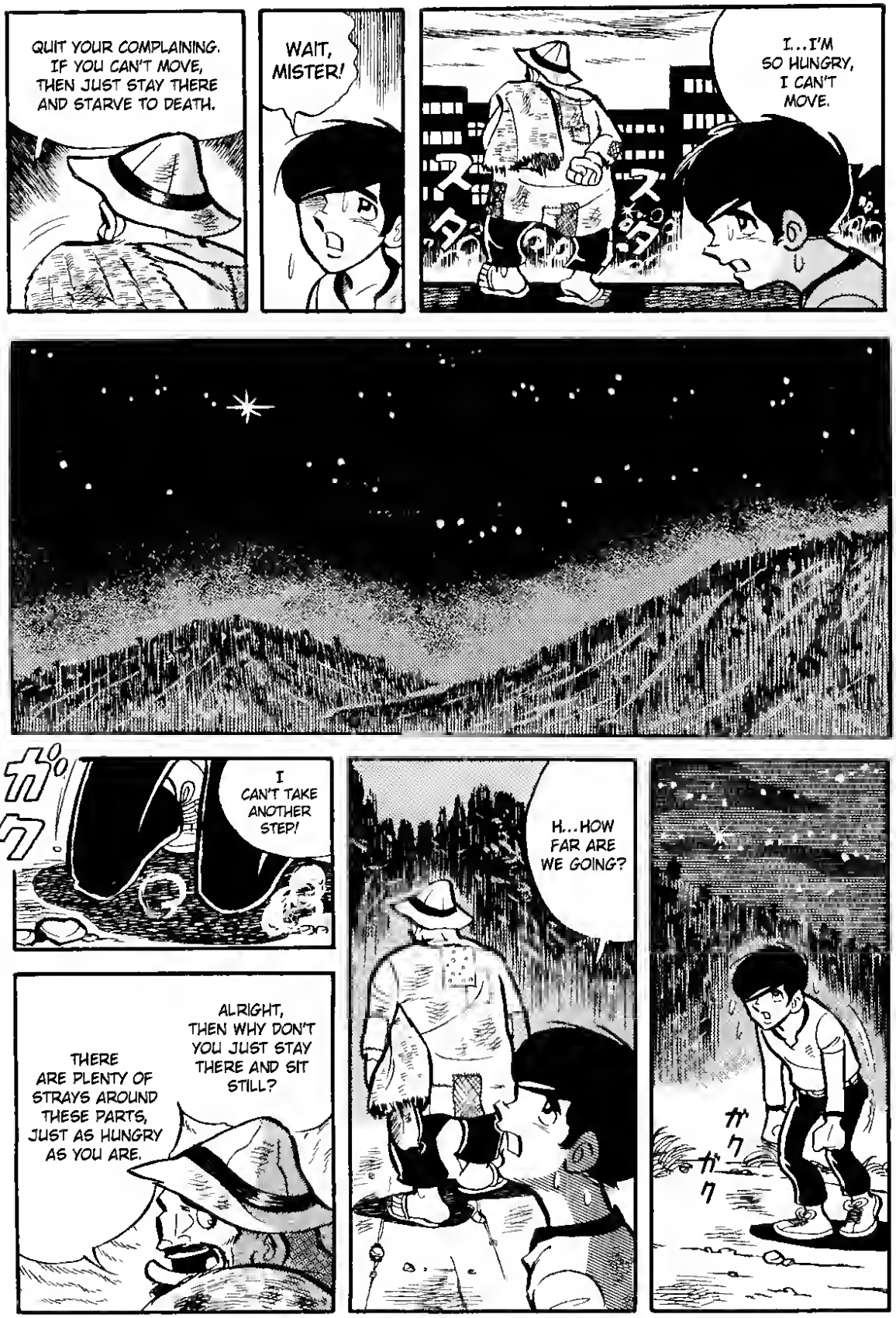
CHAPTER 4:
THEY CALL HIM MAMMON



W... WHY NOT?
YOU THINK ANYONE'S GONNA GIVE MONEY TO A BEGGAR LIKE YOU?
HEHEHEHEHE... HEY, KID...
NOW, YOU'D BETTER RUN ALONG HOME, KID... YOUR PARENTS ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
IF YOU CAN'T FIGURE THAT OUT FOR YOURSELF, THEN YOU'VE GOT NO PLACE BEGGING.
OH? SO WHERE DO YOU LIVE, THEN?
I DON'T HAVE ANY PARENTS.
A...ALMS FOR THE POOR...
AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE OUT HERE BEGGING?
I CAN'T GO BACK. NOT UNTIL I'VE MADE MONEY.
THEN GO BACK TO THAT SHIP.
UNTIL YESTERDAY, ON A JUNK SHIP.


SO, YOU GOT NO CAPITAL... HEHEHEHE... WELL, YOU NEED CAPITAL TO BEG, TOO.
IT'S THE ONLY THING I CAN DO WITHOUT ANY CAPITAL.
W...WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
FOLLOW ME, KID.
Heave-ho.
YOU THINK SO?
DO YOU REALLY? BUT ALL YOU'VE GOT ARE THOSE TORN-UP CLOTHES AND A PAN.
SURE WE DO. THE BEST BEGGARS OUT THERE HAVE GIANT MANSIONS.
BEGGARS HAVE HOUSES?
HEE HEEHEE HEEHEE!
BACK TO MY HOUSE.


QUIT YOUR COMPLAINING. IF YOU CAN'T MOVE, THEN JUST STAY THERE AND STARVE TO DEATH.
WAIT, MISTER!
I...I'M SO HUNGRY, I CAN'T MOVE.
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I CAN'T TAKE ANOTHER STEP!
H...HOW FAR ARE WE GOING?
ガクガク
ALRIGHT, THEN WHY DON'T YOU JUST STAY THERE AND SIT STILL?
THERE ARE PLENTY OF STRAYS AROUND THESE PARTS, JUST AS HUNGRY AS YOU ARE.

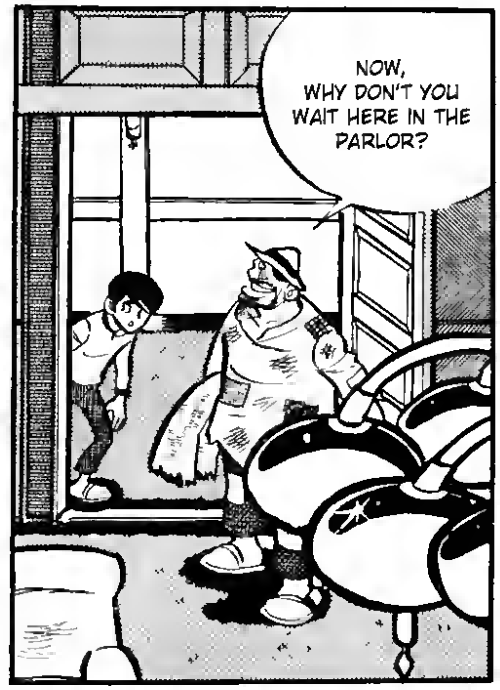
ALRIGHT, WE'RE HERE.
Huff
Huff
Huff
O-OKAY, I'M COMING!
THAT'S RIGHT. THIS IS MY HUMBLE HOME.
WHOA...

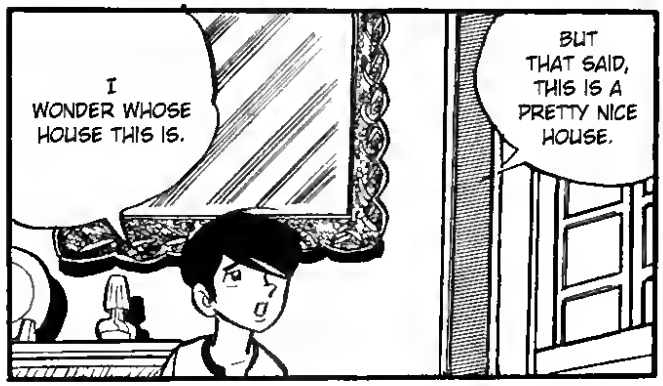
YOU'RE RIGHT. I GUESS IF NO ONE'S HOME, THERE'S NO ONE TO SCOLD YOU.
スタスタ
YEAH, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT.
A... ARE YOU SQUAT-TING HERE?
WHO'S THERE TO SCOLD ME?
W...WON'T YOU GET SCOLDED FOR THIS?
I...IT CALMED DOWN... IT MUST BE PRETTY WELL-TRAINED.
OHHH, GOOD BOY, GOOD BOY. EVERYTHING'S OKAY. THIS KID'S A FRIEND.
GRRRRRR...

YEAH, IT'S ALRIGHT. SEE? IT'S NOT LOCKED.
W-WAIT! ARE WE REALLY GOING IN THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR?

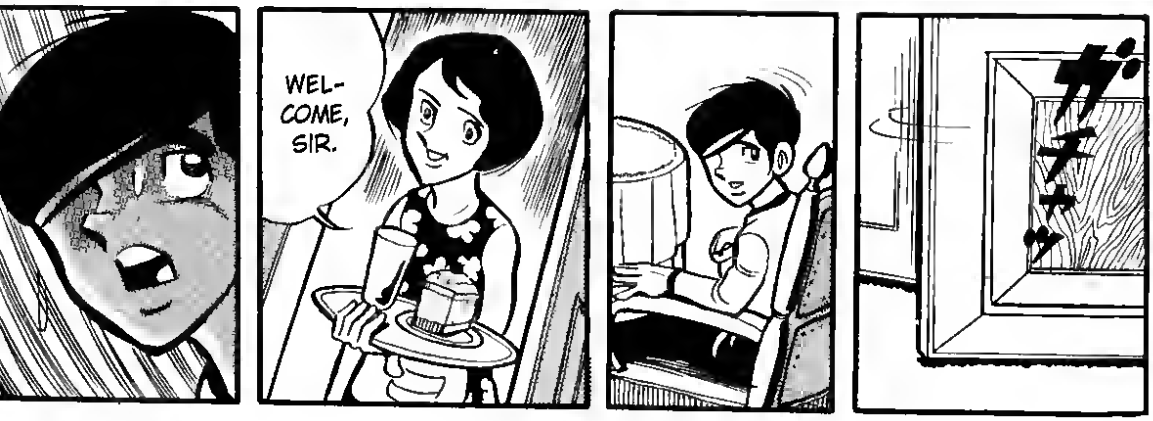
HE'S SO BRAZEN... AND SO NERVELESS... WHAT A BEGGAR...
HE'S TREATING IT LIKE IT'S HIS OWN HOUSE.

WHY WOULD A BEGGAR USE A PARLOR?

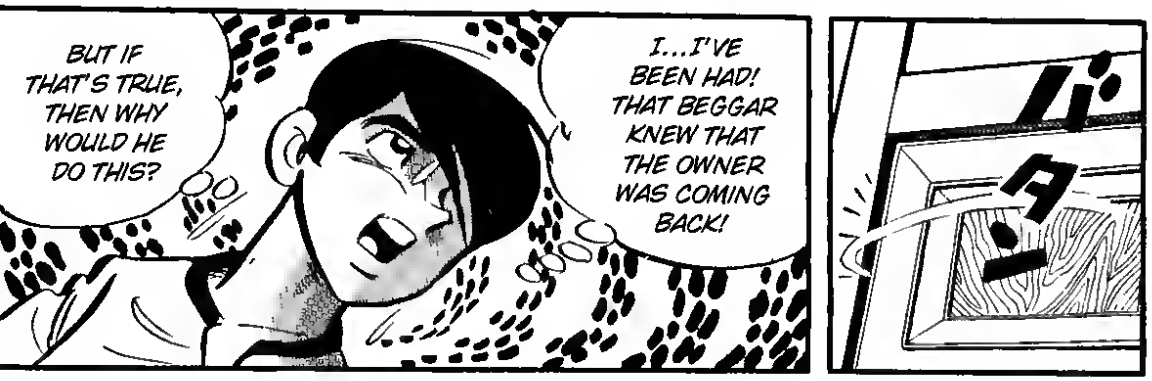

NOW, WHY DON'T YOU WAIT HERE IN THE PARLOR?


I WONDER WHOSE HOUSE THIS IS.
BUT THAT SAID, THIS IS A PRETTY NICE HOUSE.

I GOT IT! THIS MUST BE SOMEONE'S VILLA!
AND THAT BEGGAR'S SQUATTING IN HERE WHILE THEY'RE NOT USING IT...
... THEN HE GOES TO ANOTHER VILLA WHEN THE OWNER COMES BACK... I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT!


WEL-COME, SIR.
ガチャッ

THE MASTER WILL BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT. IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE, HAVE SOME FOOD.
.....


I...I'VE BEEN HAD! THAT BEGGAR KNEW THAT THE OWNER WAS COMING BACK!
BUT IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN WHY WOULD HE DO THIS?
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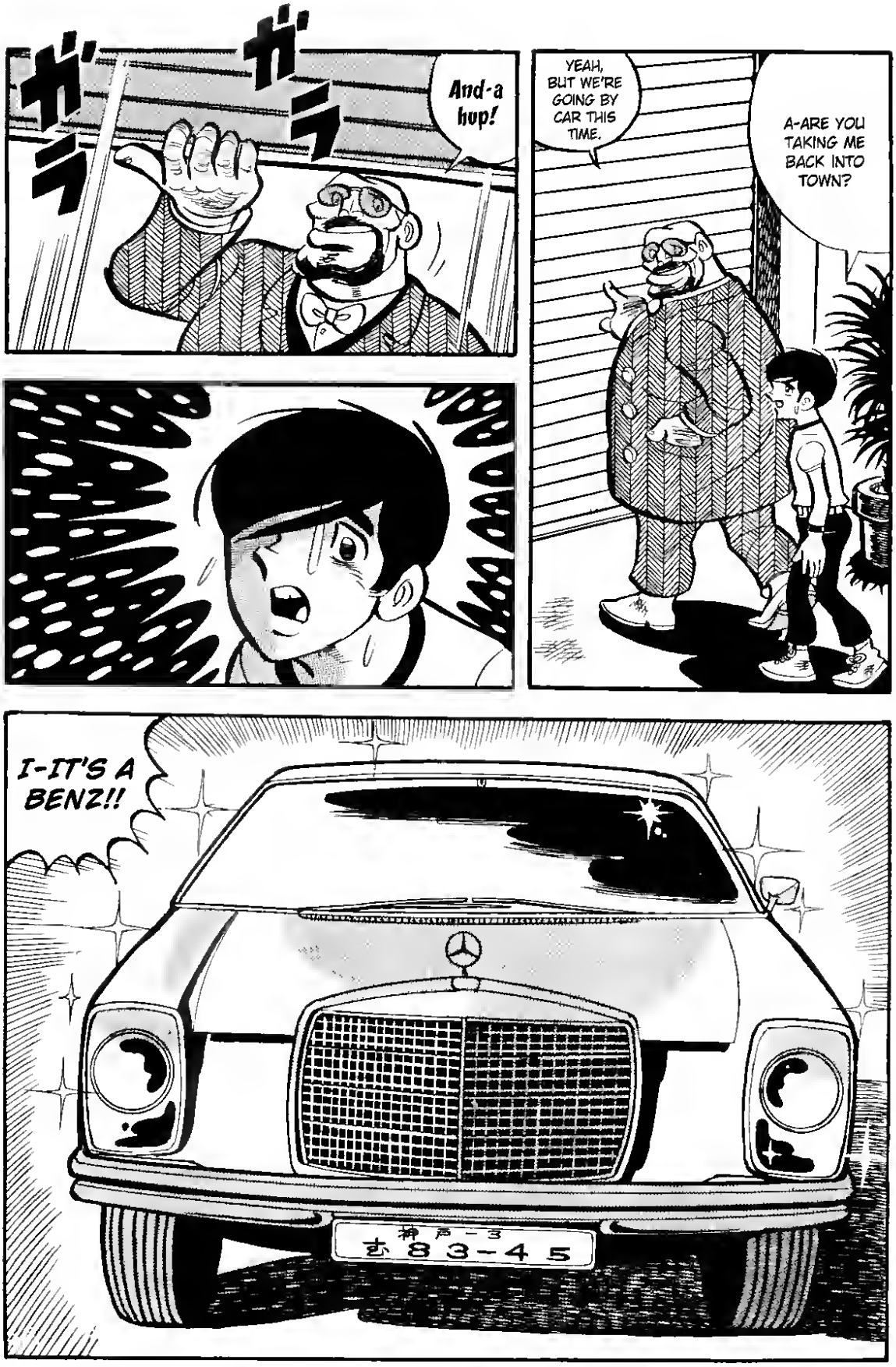
OH, BUT I'D BETTER TAKE THIS CAKE WITH ME.
I'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE!
AHHH-HHHH-HHH!
I WAS JUST BROUGHT HERE...
I-I BEG YOUR PARDON, SIR!
.....
WHAT'RE YOU APOLOGIZING FOR, KID? IT'S JUST ME!

NOT TRUE?
N...NO! IT'S NOT TRUE!
IT'S ME! THE BEGGAR!
SO, YOU'VE FINALLY FIGURED IT OUT.
I-IT IS YOU!
A...A... ALMS FOR THE POOR...
B...B... BUT WHY WERE YOU BEGGING...?
THE NAME'S SUMIYOSHI GENGORO.
I'M THE OWNER OF THIS MANSION.
OH, RIGHT. YOU SAID YOU WERE HUNGRY, DIDN'T YOU? LET'S GO GET SOMETHING TO EAT.
YOUR JOB?
THAT'S MY JOB.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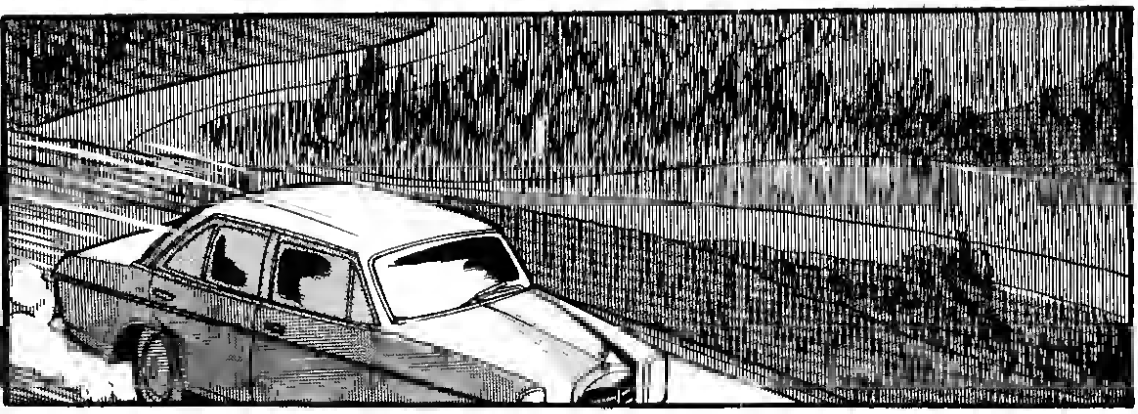
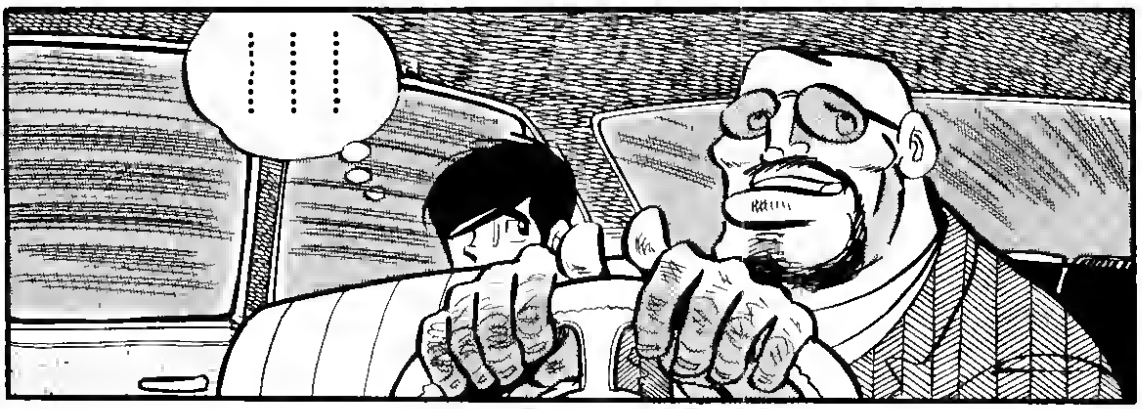
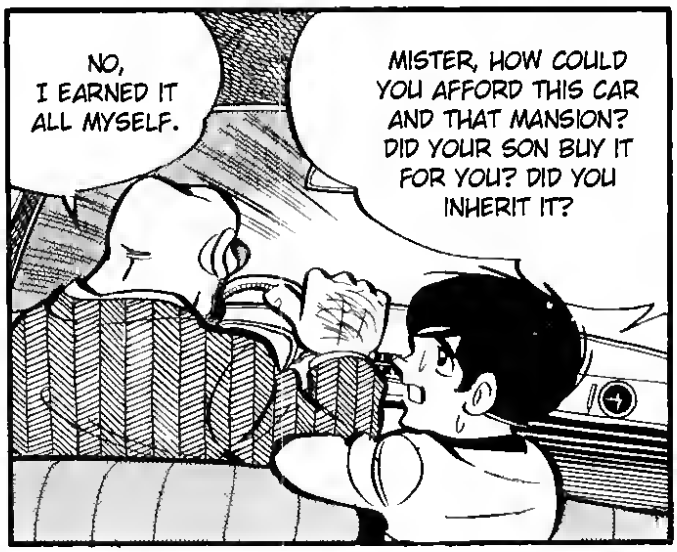
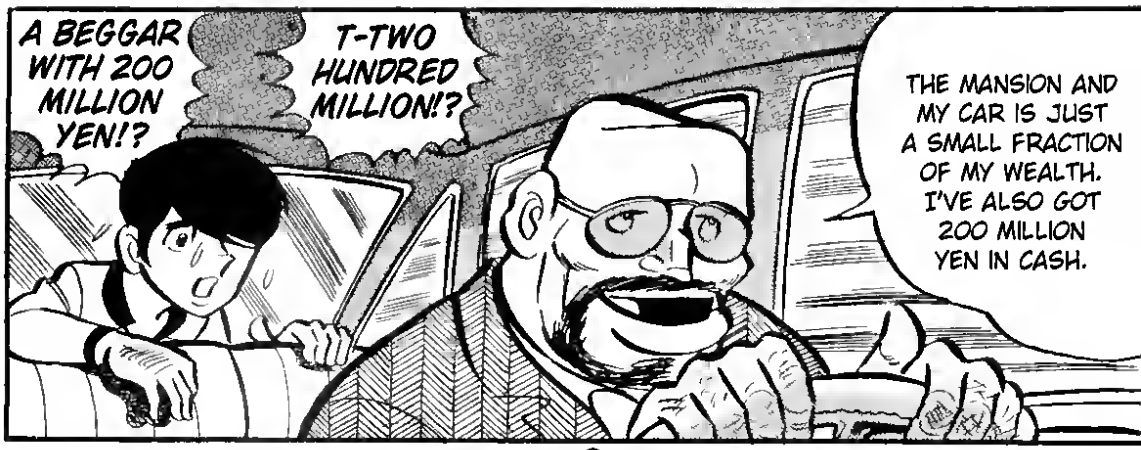
And-a hup!
A-ARE YOU TAKING ME BACK INTO TOWN?
YEAH, BUT WE'RE GOING BY CAR THIS TIME.
I-IT'S A BENZ!!
神戸 300
む 83-45



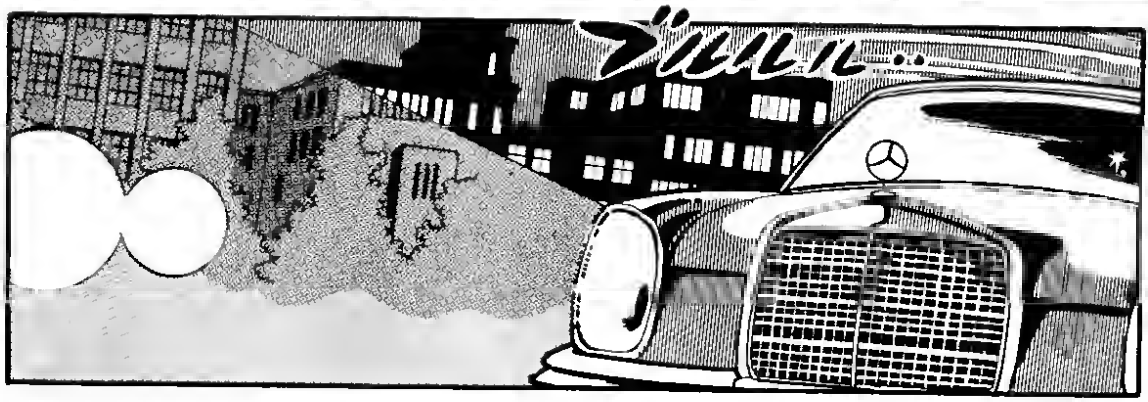


H...HE OWNS SUCH A FINE CAR, AND SUCH A FANCY MANSION... SO WHY ON EARTH IS HE OUT ON THE STREETS, BEGGING...?


NO, I EARNED IT ALL MYSELF.
MISTER, HOW COULD YOU AFFORD THIS CAR AND THAT MANSION? DID YOUR SON BUY IT FOR YOU? DID YOU INHERIT IT?


A BEGGAR WITH 200 MILLION YEN!?
T-TWO HUNDRED MILLION!?
THE MANSION AND MY CAR IS JUST A SMALL FRACTION OF MY WEALTH. I'VE ALSO GOT 200 MILLION YEN IN CASH.

STILL THINK I'M LYING, HUH...? WELL, ALRIGHT.
プオロロロ
Y... YOU'RE LYING!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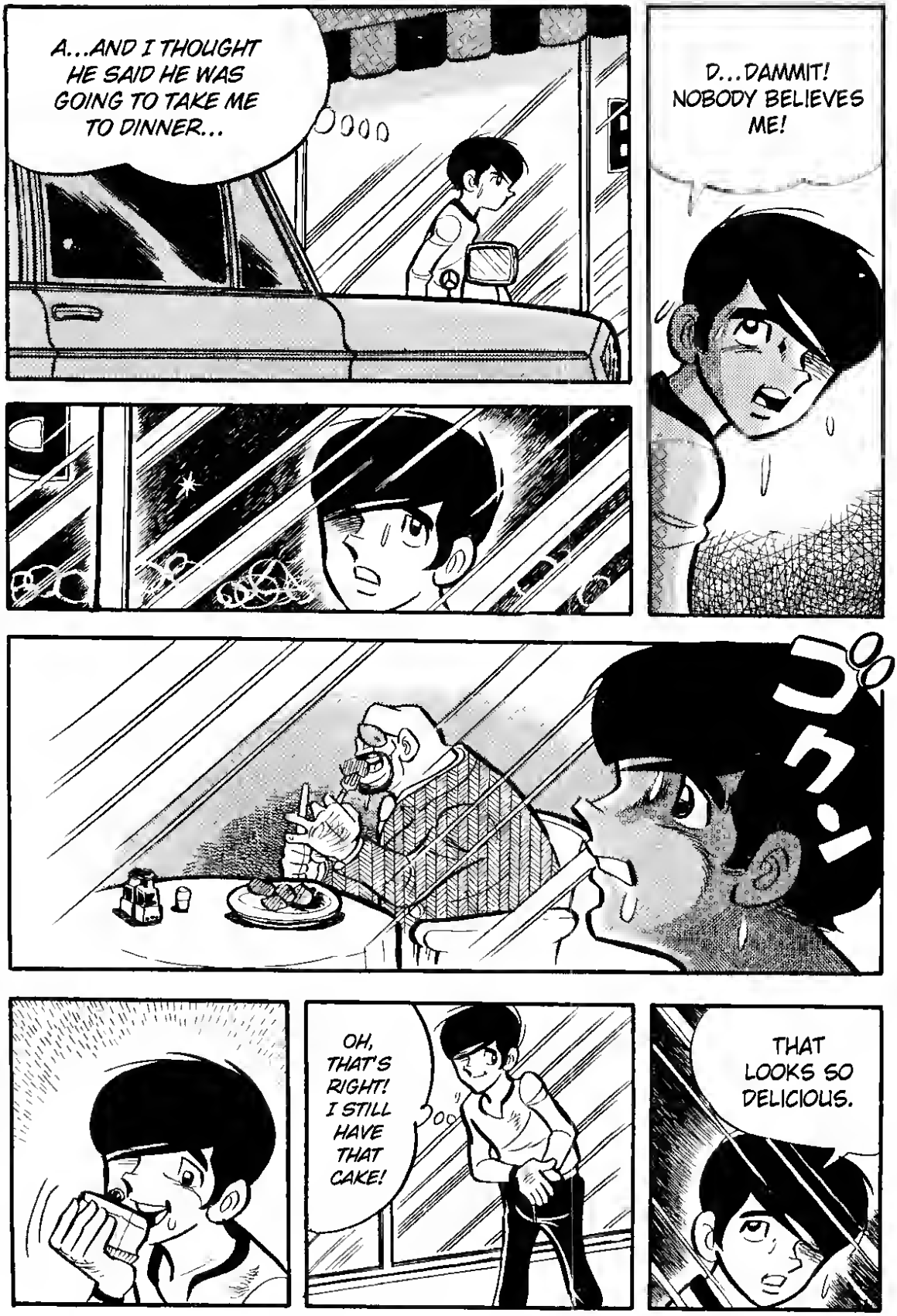
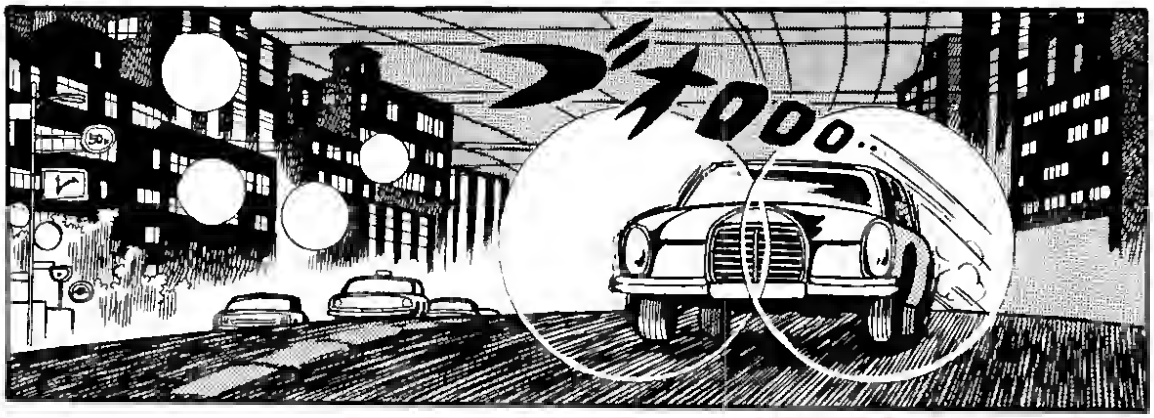
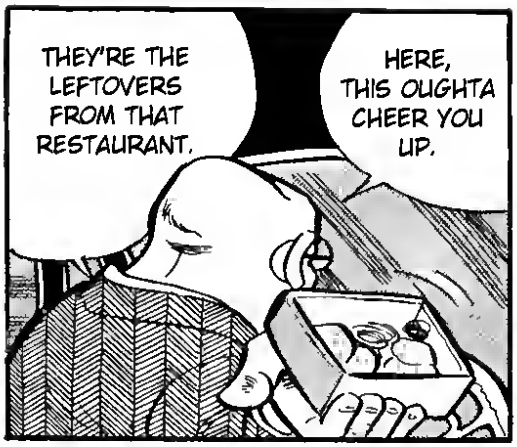
High-Class Restaurant
BON
GET OUT, KID.
WELCOME, SIR.
SOMETHING THE MATTER, MANAGER?
J-JUST A MINUTE, SIR!

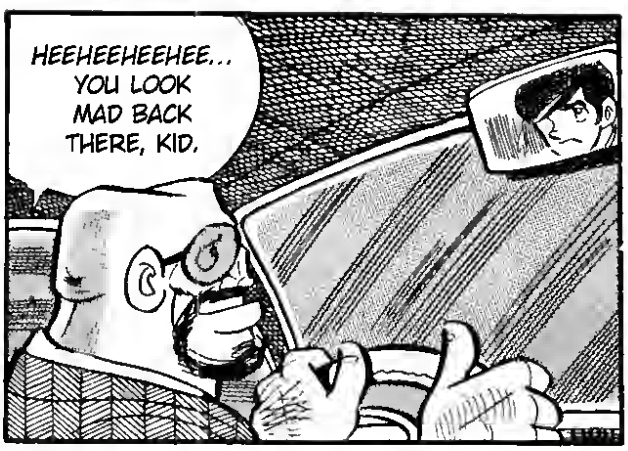
HUH?
YOU WAIT OUTSIDE.
OH, RIGHT, RIGHT. I DIDN'T THINK OF THAT.
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, I'M AFRAID WE CAN'T LET THIS BOY DINE HERE WITH YOU IF HE'S NOT PROPERLY DRESSED...
COME ON, GO OUTSIDE. WE CAN'T HAVE YOU UPSETTING OUR OTHER GUESTS.
BUT MISTER, I'M HUNGRY! TAKE ME WITH YOU!
IN FACT, YOU LOOK MORE LIKE A BEGGAR YOURSELF!
OH, WE GET LOTS OF BEGGARS... BUT THEY ALL COME IN THROUGH THE BACK TO EAT SCRAPS!
BUT THAT MAN THAT YOU JUST LET IN IS A BEGGAR!


A...AND I THOUGHT HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO TAKE ME TO DINNER...
D...DAMMIT! NOBODY BELIEVES ME!
UH-!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! I STILL HAVE THAT CAKE!
THAT LOOKS SO DELICIOUS.

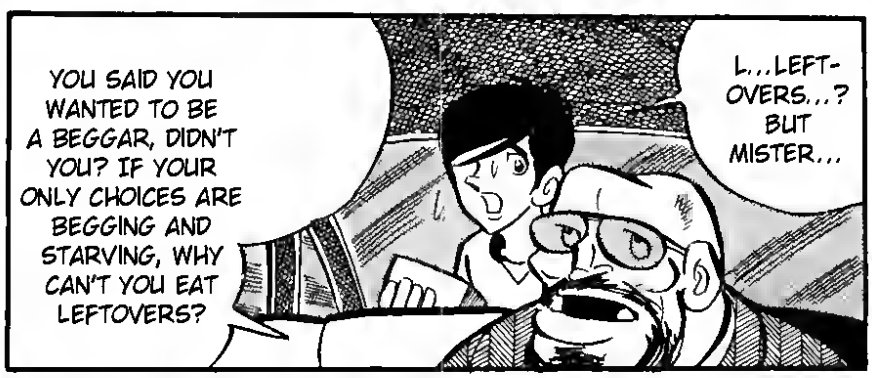
I... IT'S MADE OUT OF WAX!
Y-YOUR DOG...?
HEY, YOU THERE! CAN YOU WRAP THIS UP FOR ME SO I CAN FEED IT TO MY DOG?
YES, YES, RIGHT AWAY, SIR!
YOU'RE GIVING IT THESE DELICACIES...? BOY, DO I WISH I WAS YOUR DOG!

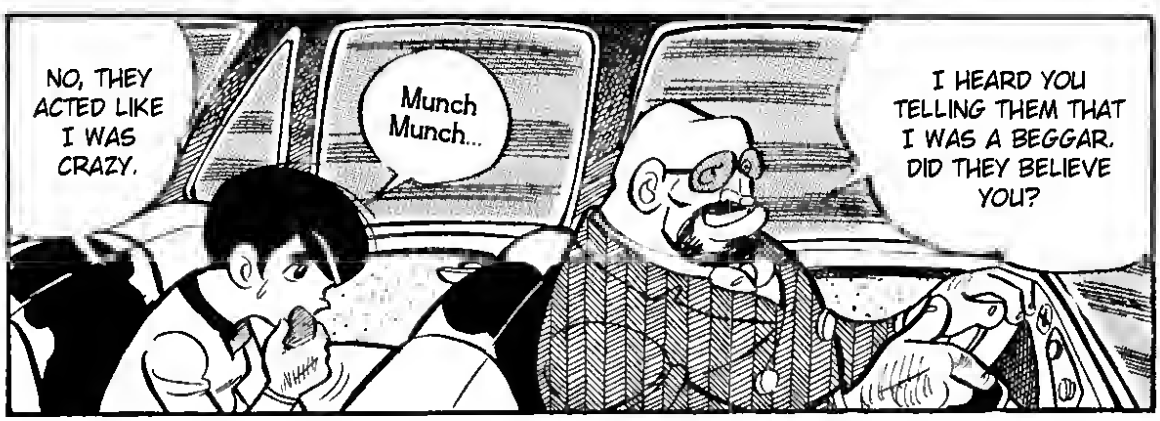

ブオOOO..


THEY'RE THE LEFTOVERS FROM THAT RESTAURANT.
HERE, THIS OUGHTA CHEER YOU UP.


HEEHEEHEEHEE... YOU LOOK MAD BACK THERE, KID.

FINE, I'LL EAT THEM.

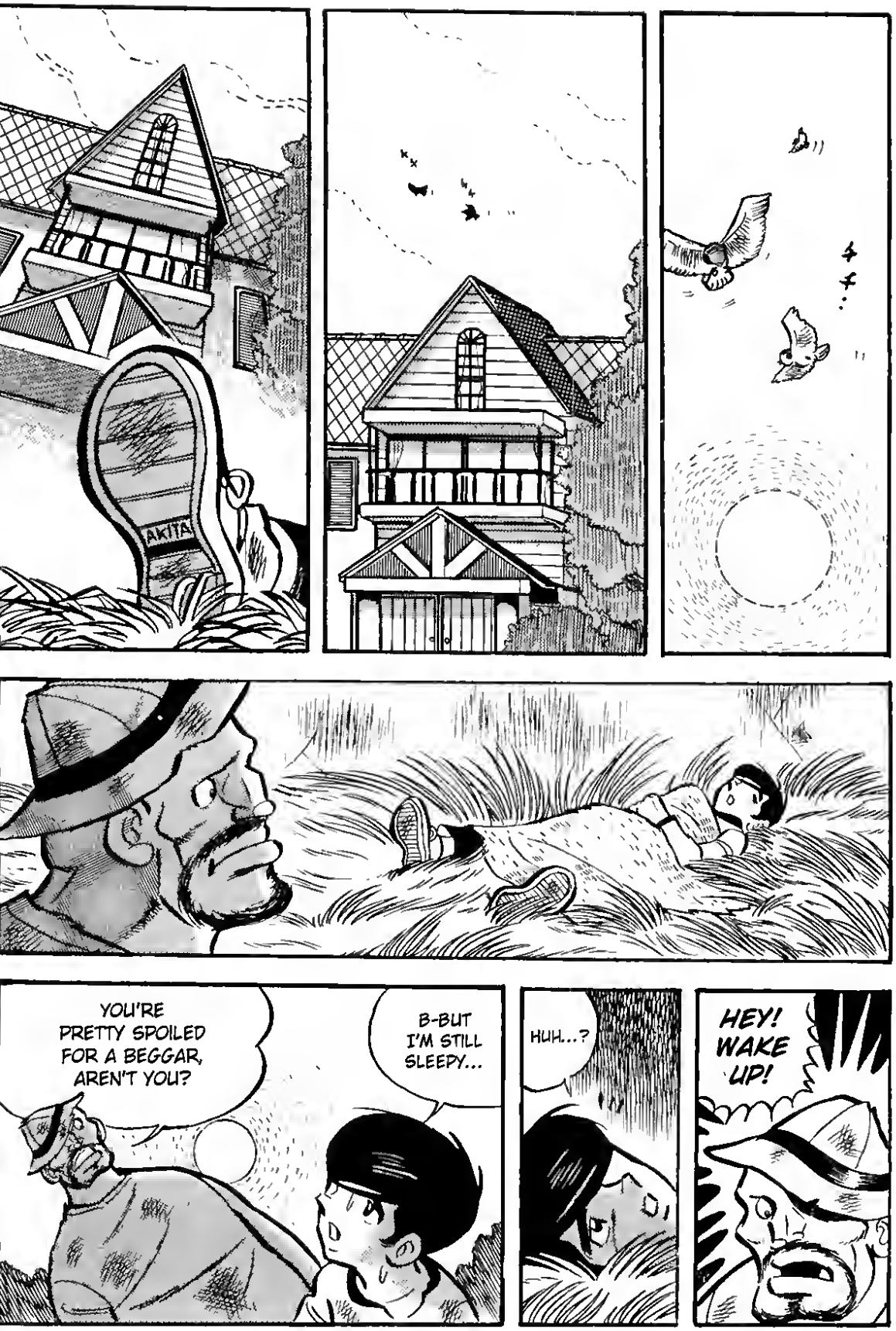

YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO BE A BEGGAR, DIDN'T YOU? IF YOUR ONLY CHOICES ARE BEGGING AND STARVING, WHY CAN'T YOU EAT LEFTOVERS?
L...LEFT-OVERS...? BUT MISTER...

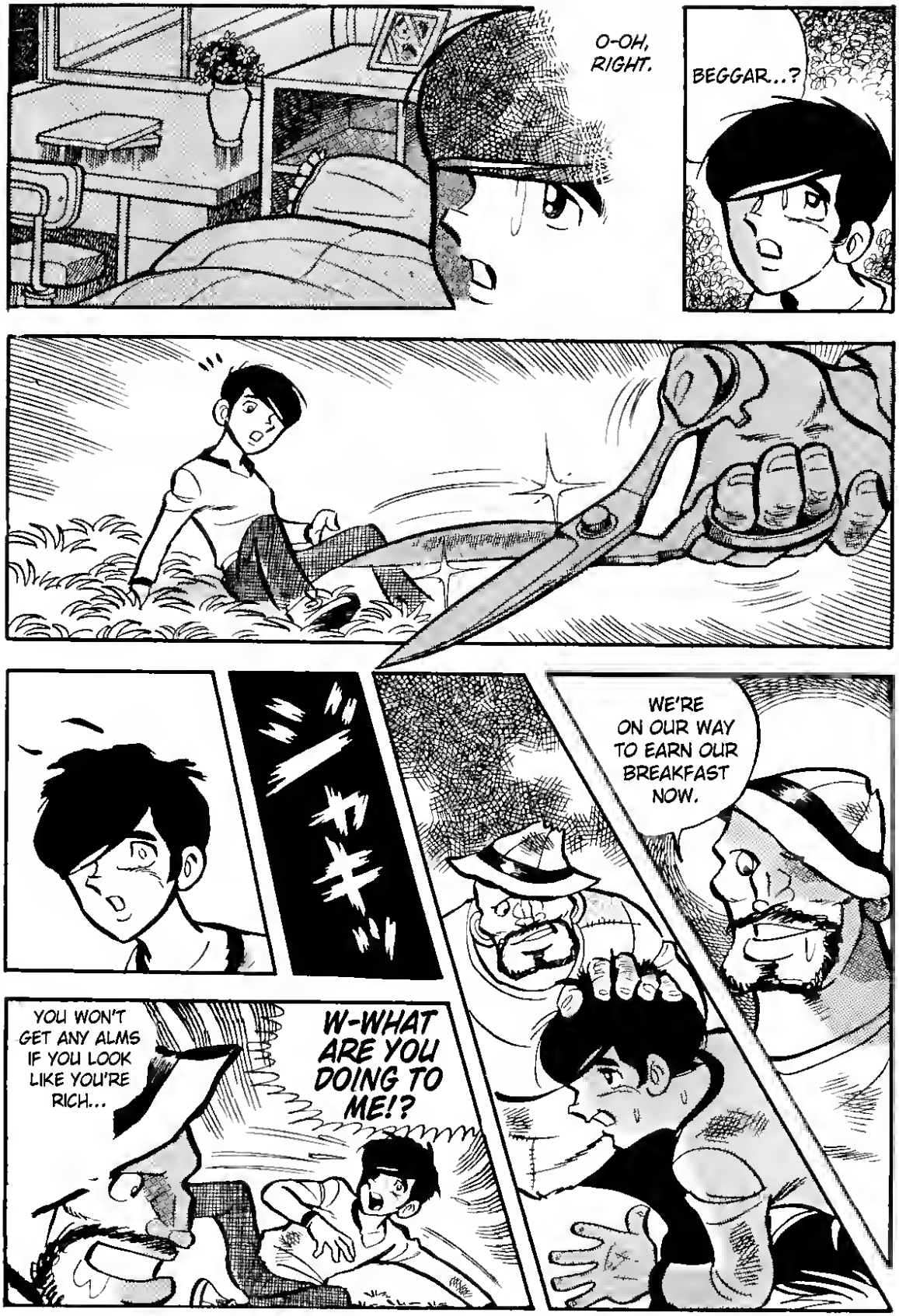

NO, THEY ACTED LIKE I WAS CRAZY.
Munch Munch...
I HEARD YOU TELLING THEM THAT I WAS A BEGGAR. DID THEY BELIEVE YOU?

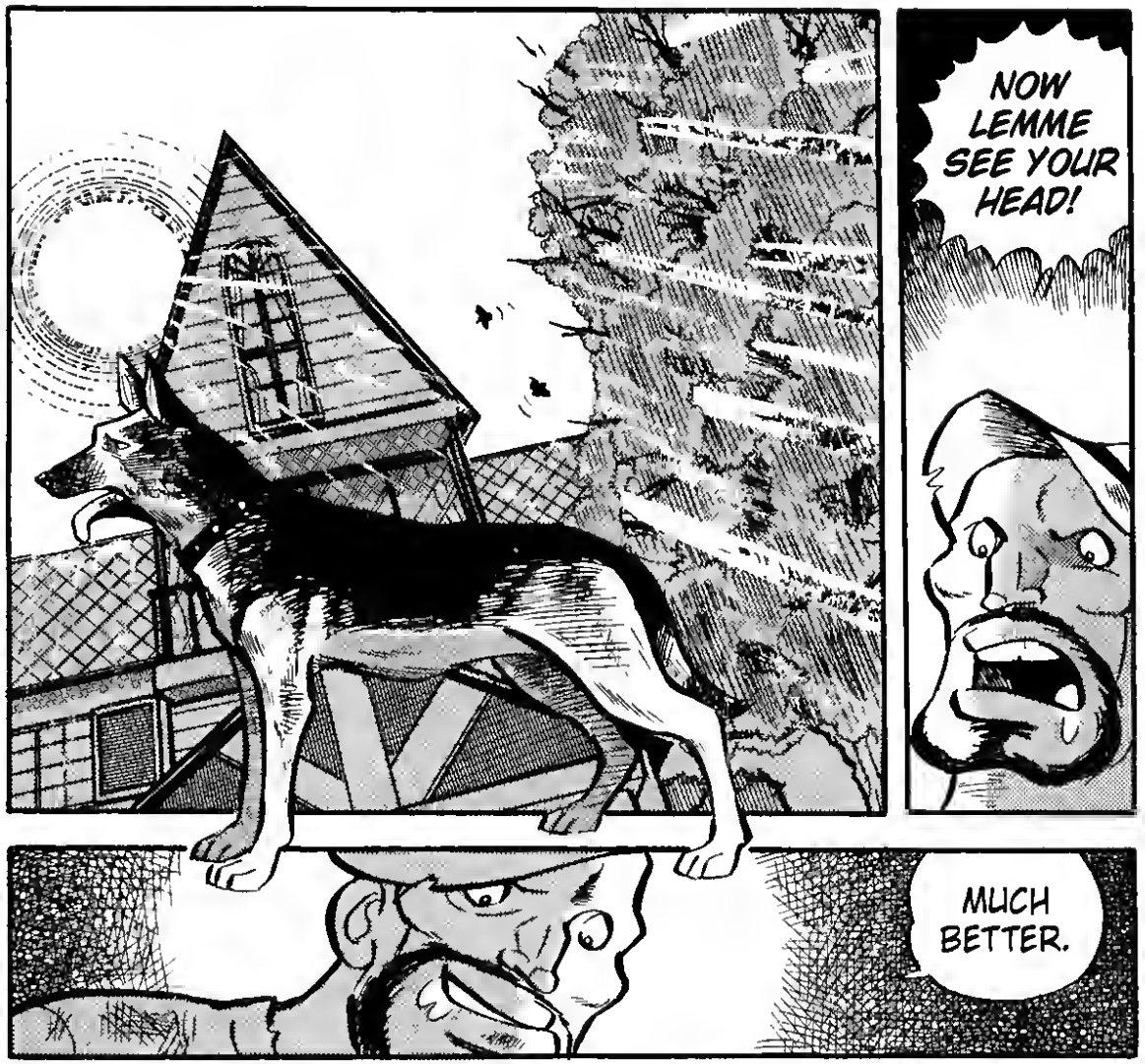
HUH?
I THOUGHT SO... BUT YOU GOT THE GOOD END OF THE BARGAIN HERE.
BUT YOU GOT TO EAT FOR FREE, JUST BECAUSE YOU WERE WEARING RAGS... AND YOU ATE THE SAME FOOD AS ME, LEFTOVERS THOUGH THEY WERE.
I HAD TO PAY THROUGH THE NOSE TO EAT THERE, ALL BECAUSE I WAS DRESSED UP IN FANCY CLOTHES.
AHH! I SEE!
THIS... THIS IS THE GREAT PART OF BEING A BEGGAR!
KEEP THAT IN YOUR MIND, KID!
Heehee!

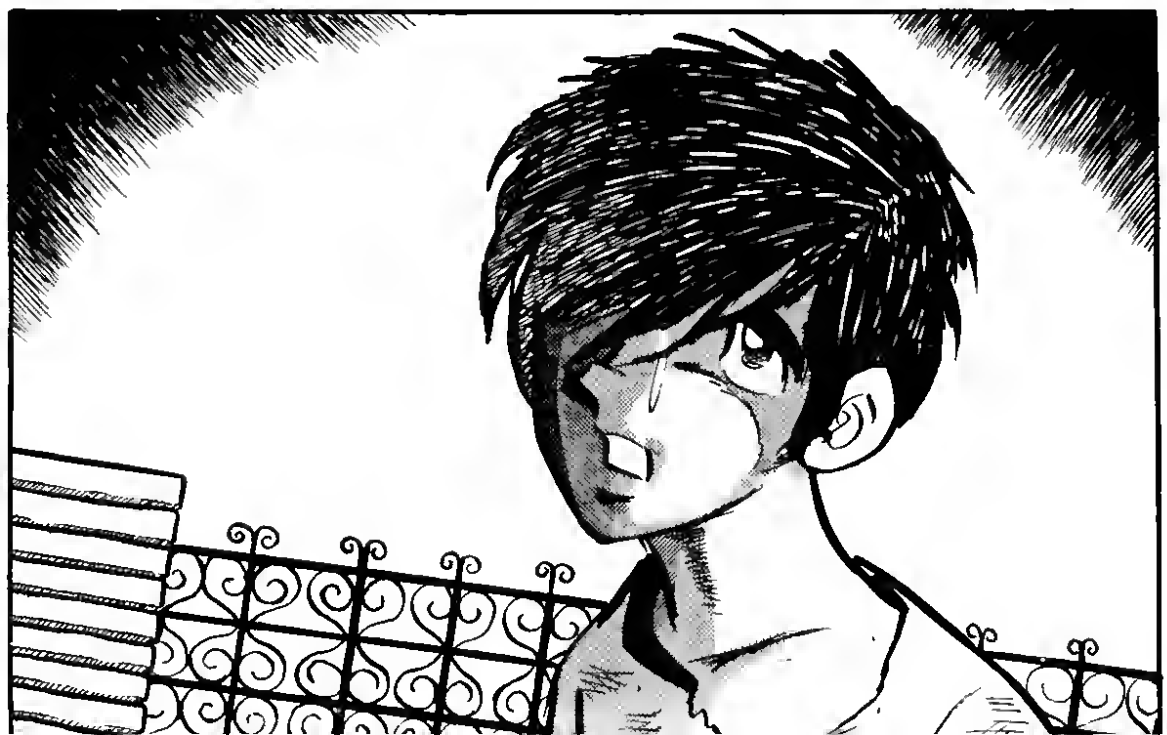
M-
MISTER...
A...ARE YOU REALLY MAKING ME SLEEP ON THIS MAT...? WHY CAN'T I SLEEP INSIDE THE HOUSE?
YOU WANT TO BE A BEGGAR, DON'T YOU? BEGGARS CAN'T BE CHOOSERS.

COLDS ARE FOR THE RICH. THE POOR DON'T CATCH COLDS.
B... BUT I'LL CATCH A COLD!
THE POOR DON'T CATCH COLDS...
COLDS ARE FOR THE RICH...


AKITA
HEY! WAKE UP!
HUH...?
B-BUT I'M STILL SLEEPY...
YOU'RE PRETTY SPOILED FOR A BEGGAR, AREN'T YOU?


O-OH, RIGHT.
BEGGAR...?
カキ
WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO EARN OUR BREAKFAST NOW.
YOU WON'T GET ANY ALMS IF YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE RICH...
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME!?


NOW LEMME SEE YOUR HEAD!
MUCH BETTER.

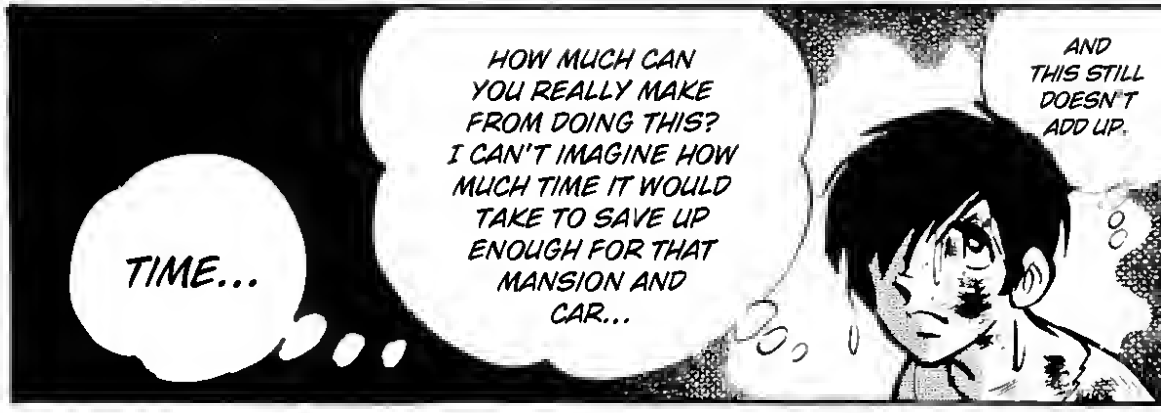


I SAID CLOSE 'EM!
HUH?
CLOSE YOUR EYES.
NOW FOR YOUR FACE.
URR-RGH!
A-AL-RIGHT!
SOOT...?
THERE'S NO NEED TO LOOK SO SURPRISED. I JUST COVERED YOU IN SOOT FROM THE FIREPLACE.
W... WHAT THE...
NOW FOR YOUR SHIRT AND PANTS...

YOU LOOK BEGGAR-LIKE ENOUGH NOW.
THERE.
GO TO WORK?
NOW, TIME TO GO TO WORK.
THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. A RICH MAN DRIVING A FOREIGN CAR INTO TOWN TO BEG?

ヒョイ
OKAY, GET OFF. WE'RE GOING ON FOOT FROM HERE.
キ
LET'S MOVE!

ガラ
THANK YOU KINDLY.
ガバッ
ブオロロロ…パア
I CAN'T. I JUST CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO DO IT...
YOU KEEP DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING!
NOW I CAN GO BUY SOME BREAD!


TIME...
HOW MUCH CAN YOU REALLY MAKE FROM DOING THIS? I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW MUCH TIME IT WOULD TAKE TO SAVE UP ENOUGH FOR THAT MANSION AND CAR...
AND THIS STILL DOESN'T ADD UP.

THANK YOU?
WHAT WAS THAT?

LOOK! I BOUGHT SOME BREAD AND MILK!
Heave-ho.
THANK YOU.

NO! YOU CAN'T SAVE THAT MUCH UP, NO MATTER HOW MUCH TIME YOU TAKE!

ゴ?!

HUH?
WHO SAID I WAS GIVING YOU ANY? THIS IS ALL MINE!

HUH?
YOU GOTTA EARN YOUR OWN FOOD. THAT'S THE BEGGAR'S WAY.
Gehehehehe...
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ギラ
ギラ
ギラ
HUFF HUFF
HUFF HUFF
HUFF
クラ

THANK YOU KINDLY.
チャリ
ブオーン
SMELL

P... Please give me money...
HERE!
チャリ
YOU'RE RIGHT! WHY DON'T YOU GIVE HIM SOME MONEY?
MOMMY... LOOK AT THIS POOR BOY!
ギュ
10D
昭和42年

IF IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH, YOU PUT YOUR HEAD DOWN ON THE GROUND AND BEG... IT'S THAT SINCERITY THAT'LL LOOSEN PEOPLE'S PURSE STRINGS.
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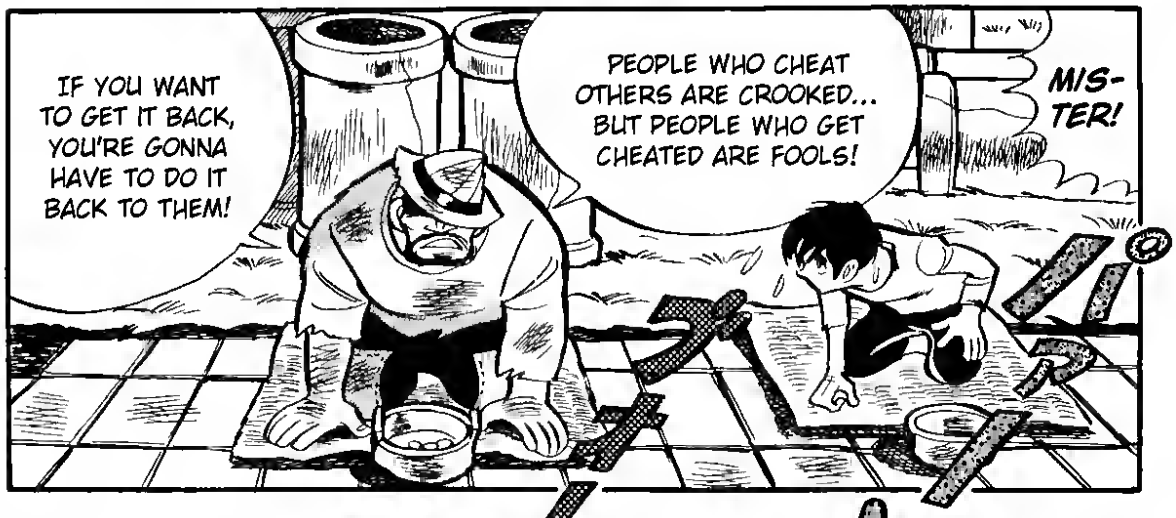
ゴクゴク
HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE BEFORE I CAN COME BACK FOR AKO?
HOW LONG UNTIL I CAN BUY MY HOUSE BACK?

中馬

I SEE...
I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST A RUNAWAY KID. NOW I KNOW WHY YOU'VE SWALLOWED YOUR PRIDE AND STUCK WITH ME.

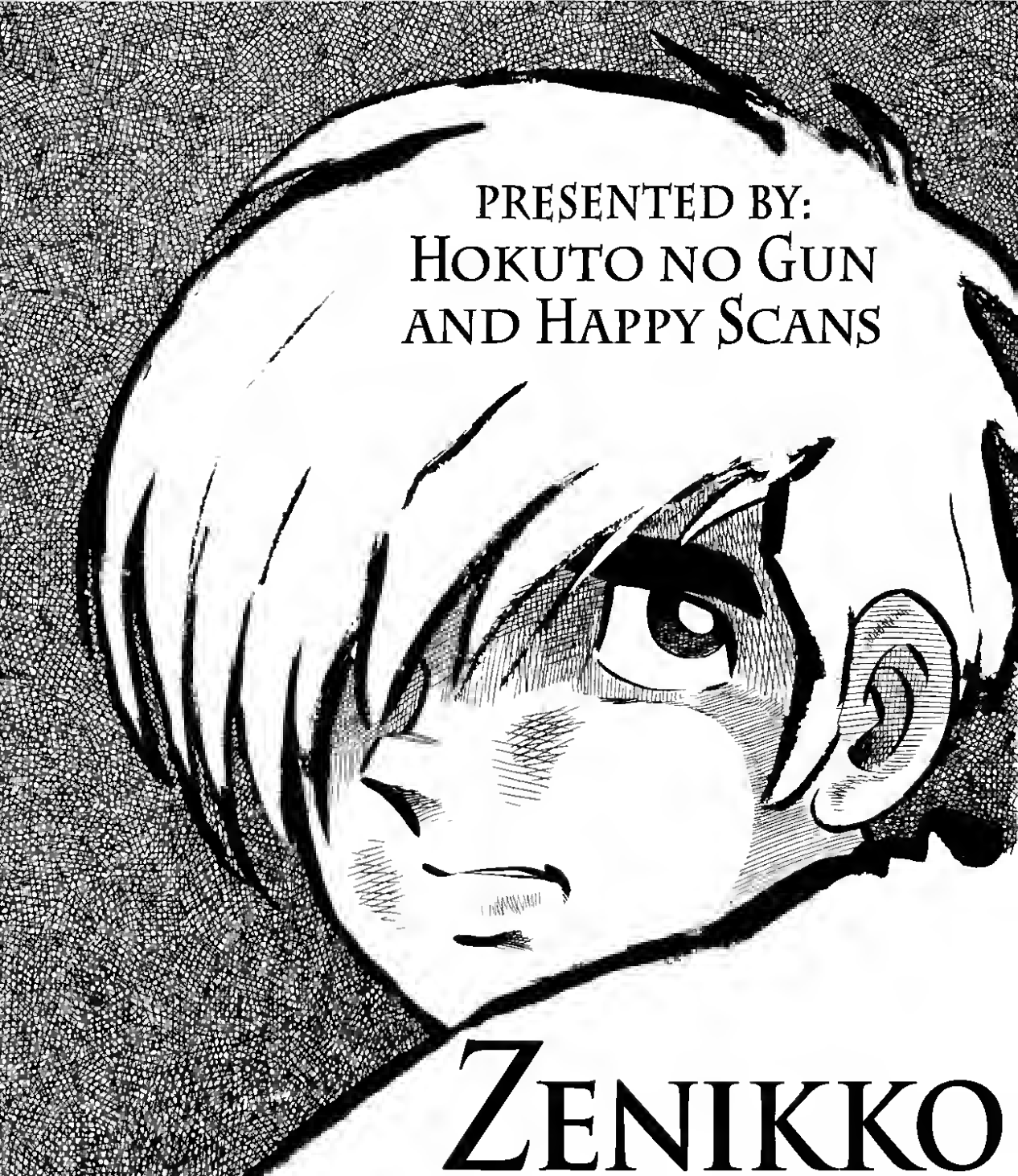
YOUR RELATIVES MAY BE CROOKED, BUT THEY SURE KNEW WHAT THEY WERE DOING.
BUT AS BITTER AS YOU ARE ABOUT YOUR HOUSE, IT'S A LITTLE LATE TO DO ANYTHING NOW.


IF YOU WANT TO GET IT BACK, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO IT BACK TO THEM!
PEOPLE WHO CHEAT OTHERS ARE CROOKED... BUT PEOPLE WHO GET CHEATED ARE FOOLS!
MIS-TER!

I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO REALLY MAKE SOME MONEY.
GWEHEHE HEHEHE...
FOLLOW ME, KID.

AND PENNY FOR A PENNY!
EYE FOR AN EYE,

P-PLEASE, TELL ME WHAT I HAVE TO DO TO GET IT BACK!



PRESENTED BY:
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND HAPPY SCANS

ZENIKKO

TRANSLATED BY:
SYSTEMICCHAOS

REDRAWER:
KAZUHIKO

CLEANER AND PROOFREADER:
WRIGHT

TYPESETTER:
TAMBUR